#### FIRST READING

*Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21* If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Ps.* 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34 *Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!* 

#### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

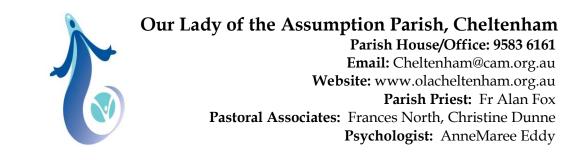
#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

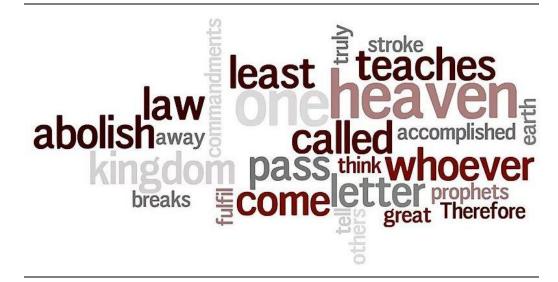
#### **GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 5:17-37 Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the

Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven. 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court: if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away: for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell. 'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



# Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020



## Focus of the Readings

The central theme of this week's Gospel reading from Matthew is built upon over the next several weeks. In this text, Matthew is reassuring his Jewish audience that Jesus has not come to replace the Law of Judaism but to bring it to fullness and completion. In this gospel, Jesus reassures his hearers that 'not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law.' Instead, Jesus extends the Law of Israel and interprets it in a new way. His emphasis is on the spirit of the Law, not the letter of the Law. Doing only what the Law requires as a minimum is, for Jesus, not enough. Disciples are called to discern what is at the heart of faith and to bring this to all our dealings with people. The observance of outward expressions of faith is hollow unless it is accompanied by an attitude that shapes our whole being and informs all our actions, responses and decisions.

## PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Alan Fox 9583 6161 Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

## **PASTORAL ASSOCIATES:**

Frances North9583 6161Email:Frances.North@cam.org.auChristine Dunne9583 6161

9583 6161

9583 6161

## **PSYCHOLOGIST:**

AnneMaree Eddy

#### PARISH OFFICE:

Monday to Friday9 am - 3.30 pmSecretary:Lisa HarrisBookkeeper:Ann FitzgeraldEmail:Cheltenham@cam.org.au

## PARISH SCHOOL:

Our Lady of the Assumption9584 9488Principal: Mr Richard Jacques

## MASS TIMES:

Saturday	6:30 pm
Sunday	9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday	6.00 pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Fri	day 9.15 am
Saturday	9.00 am
COMMUNION SERVICE:	
Monday	9.15 am

### **RECONCILIATION:**

Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

## BAPTISMS:

Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the  $2^{\rm nd}$  Sunday of the month.

6 weeks' notice required.

Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and Application Form available on our parish website.

## WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office 9583 6161.

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2020

## PRAYING FOR

Janet Siebel, Patricia Campbell, Anthony Cleary, Louisa Foes, Ben Maciejewshi, Auri Cimador, *and all those who have died recently*.

*We also remember the anniversaries of:* Bill Wilson Snr, Noel Antas, Franko Fode Ursa, Franca Natoli.

**PURIFERS:** 16<sup>th</sup> February: Nan McVeigh 23<sup>rd</sup> February: Margaret Nash

**KNITTING GROUP:** Join the group on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 1.00pm. ALL WELCOME. Many thanks for the donation of wool over the Christmas period. 'Knitting, it's sitting for creative people'.

**GENTLE EXERCISE AND TAI CHI:** Gentle Exercise classes will be held on Wednesday 10.15am – 11.15am in Exodus Hall. Advanced Tai Chi will be held on Wednesday 11.30am -12.30pm. For beginners Tai Chi, please contact Anastasia first on 0422 652 866 if you are wanting to join the 12.45pm -1.45pm group.

**COUNSELLING SERVICE:** Counselling is provided by AnneMaree Eddy, Psychologist. Please contact the parish office for appointments, 9583 6161.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: On

some Sundays during each term there is a Children's Liturgy of the Word offered during 11am Mass for children in prep to grade 3. An extra volunteer would be greatly appreciated. All lesson notes, etc., are provided. Please contact the Parish office if you are interested. A current WWCC must be provided. Many Thanks, Maureen Duke.

**OLA SCHOOL REUNION 1956 - 1963:** Join past students and friends at the Royal Oak Hotel on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> March. 12.30pm start. Contact Sr Margaret Pelly via the parish office, 9583 6161.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) head to: http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass.htm Navigate using the right-hand column.

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION PRIMARY SCHOOL: The first tour of the school will be held on the 25th February at 9.15am. For further information, please contact the school on 95849488

**LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS:** The programme we will be following this year is *Be Opened* ... to be led by the Spirit... to listen... to the living water... to see... to believe.. to death...to new life. There are a variety of times and venues. Please add your name and contact details to which ever suits you.

**RISE: HOME AWAITS:** Join youth groups, schools and communities around Melbourne as they come together for Rise: Home Awaits. A one-day event for young people aged from Year 7 to 25 years to discover and deepen in Christ and to celebrate their faith. More information on the noticeboard, and in the church foyer.

### MERCY PILGRIMAGE WITH

**OBERAMMERGAU:** Explore the iconic pilgrimage sites of Eastern Europe in this 16 day pilgrimage led by Fr. Patrick Jackson departing 8<sup>th</sup> August 2020. This pilgrimage features Warsaw, Krakow, Prague, Munich, and Oberammergau. Witness the famous Passion Play 2020 which takes place once-a-decade, for an all-inclusive price of \$7900 plus tips. The fare includes return economy airfares, Local transfers in deluxe coaches. Stay in premium hotels, all breakfast and dinners included. For enquiries: 8839 6615 or info@magiholidays.com.au

**GUITARISTS NEEDED:** Our parish would love to hear from any guitarists who may be willing to assist with the music in our liturgies. Please contact the parish office on 9583 6161 SOCIAL COHESION AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT: The City of Kingston invites you to explore social cohesion. Join us to learn more about opportunities to improve interfaith and intercultural dialogue, and working with local government to foster cohesion and community resilience. Includes Guest speakers and Q&A session. Wednesday 25 March 2020, 6pm - 8pm. Shirley Burke Theatre - 64 Parkers Rd, Parkdale. Free Event with refreshments. *Please advise if you have any dietary or other requirements.* RSVP by 18 March Contact Elisabetta Robecchi on 9581 4783 or email:

elisabetta.robecchi@kingston.vic.gov.au

**LET THE HEART LISTEN:** is a 15-week formation program on Thursday mornings for people involved in listening to and supporting others. The program includes: the principles of listening and discernment, facilitated group participation, guided reflection etc. Facilitated by Carole Carmody rsm, the program begins on 27 Feb 2020 at Heart of Life, 296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern. Cost \$680.

For more information or application form, contact info@heartoflife.melbourne, or 9890 1101.

#### YOUNG ADULTS GROUP FROM ST MARY OF THE CROSS (MORDIALLOC/ASPENDALE):

Come along to the official launch of their Young Adults Group, to kick start their weekly Lenten Series. Come along to meet new young people and enjoy games, music, food, scripture reading and praise! 6pm Friday 28th February, 2020 in the Upper Room at St Brigid's Church Mordialloc, (dinner included).

email:yag.stmaryofthecross@gmail.com



SORRY FELLA, THE DRESS CODE STILL APPLIES ON VALENTINES DAY